

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
RUSSELL COUNTY
SHERIFF**

**For The Year Ended
December 31, 2005**



**CRIT LUALLEN
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE RUSSELL COUNTY SHERIFF

**For The Year Ended
December 31, 2005**

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the Russell County Sheriff's audit for the year ended December 31, 2005. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting.

Financial Condition:

Excess fees increased by \$1,646 from the prior year, resulting in excess fees of \$1,954 as of December 31, 2005. Revenues increased by \$29,134 from the prior year and expenditures increased by \$27,488.

Report Comment:

- The Sheriff's Office Has A Lack Of Segregation Of Duties

Deposits:

The Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

CONTENTS

PAGE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS	3
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT	5
COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION	11
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS	15



CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Ronnie McFall, Russell County Judge/Executive
Honorable Larry Bennett, Russell County Sheriff
Members of the Russell County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the Sheriff of Russell County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2005. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2005 in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated May 25, 2006 on our consideration of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.



The Honorable Ronnie McFall, Russell County Judge/Executive
Honorable Larry Bennett, Russell County Sheriff
Members of the Russell County Fiscal Court

Based on the results of our audit, we have presented the accompanying comment and recommendation, included herein, which discusses the following report comment:

- The Sheriff's Office Has A Lack Of Segregation Of Duties

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Sheriff and Fiscal Court of Russell County, Kentucky, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

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Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed -
May 25, 2006

RUSSELL COUNTY
LARRY BENNETT, SHERIFF
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS

For The Year Ended December 31, 2005

Revenues

Federal Grants		\$	11,684
State - Kentucky Law Enforcement Foundation Program Fund			25,729
State Fees For Services:			
Finance and Administration Cabinet	\$	17,849	
Sheriff Security Service		<u>8,676</u>	26,525
Circuit Court Clerk:			
Fines and Fees Collected			4,407
Fiscal Court			73,876
County Clerk - Delinquent Taxes			1,236
Commission On Taxes Collected			226,860
Fees Collected For Services:			
Auto Inspections		4,986	
Accident and Police Reports		93	
Serving Papers		17,725	
Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits		<u>6,780</u>	29,584
Other:			
Penalties on Tax Collections		25,850	
Board of Education- School Resource Officer		8,369	
Transporting Mental Patients		5,678	
Miscellaneous		<u>10,950</u>	50,847
Interest Earned			744
Borrowed Money:			
State Advancement			<u>118,406</u>
Total Revenues			<u>569,898</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

RUSSELL COUNTY
 LARRY BENNETT, SHERIFF
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES - REGULATORY BASIS
 For The Year Ended December 31, 2005
 (Continued)

Expenditures

Operating Expenditures and Capital Outlay:

Personnel Services-

Deputies' Salaries \$ 234,748

Contract Labor 2,432

Employee Benefits-

Employer's Share Retirement \$ 2,219

Employer Paid Health Insurance 31,536 33,755

Materials and Supplies-

Office Materials and Supplies 14,634

Uniforms 5,401

School Resource Officer Equipment 8,207 28,242

Auto Expense-

Gasoline, Maintenance and Repairs 37,686

Other Charges-

Conventions and Travel 1,443

Dues 746

Postage 1,797

Radio Repairs 908

Carrying Concealed Deadly Weapon Permits 4,990

Miscellaneous 4,720 14,604

Capital Outlay-

Vehicles 31,000

Debt Service:

State Advancement 118,406

Total Expenditures

500,873

Excess Fees

69,025

Less: Statutory Maximum

67,071

Excess Fees Due County for 2005*

\$ 1,954

*Note: The Sheriff presented a check to the County Treasurer for the excess fees due Fiscal Court on May 25, 2006.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

RUSSELL COUNTY
LARRY BENNETT, SHERIFF
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2005

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of revenues over expenditures to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the Sheriff as determined by the audit. KRS 134.310 requires the Sheriff to settle excess fees with the fiscal court at the time he files his final settlement with the fiscal court.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this regulatory basis of accounting revenues and expenditures are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive) at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2005 services
- Reimbursements for 2005 activities
- Tax commissions due from December tax collections
- Payments due other governmental entities for payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods or services provided in 2005

The measurement focus of a fee official is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

RUSSELL COUNTY
LARRY BENNETT, SHERIFF
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)

Note 2. Employee Retirement System

The county officials and employees have elected to participate in the County Employees Retirement System (CERS), pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement Systems. This is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan that covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members.

Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute. Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.0 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 8.48 percent for the first six months and 10.98 percent for the last six months of the year.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65.

Historical trend information pertaining to CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement Systems' annual financial report which is a matter of public record. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement Systems, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

Note 3. Deposits:

The Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of December 31, 2005, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 4. Miscellaneous Drug Account

The Russell County Sheriff maintains a Miscellaneous Drug Account for monies to combat illegal drugs in Russell County. The beginning balance in this account January 1, 2005 was \$2,118. There was no activity in this account for 2005.

RUSSELL COUNTY
LARRY BENNETT, SHERIFF
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
DECEMBER 31, 2005
(Continued)

Note 5. Tax Escrow Account

The Russell County Sheriff maintains a Tax Escrow Account used to deposit any un-refundable duplicate payments in an interest bearing account. The beginning balance in this account as of January 1, 2005 was \$3,947. Receipts totaled \$26, which was interest, and expenditures totaled \$364. Ending balance as of December 31, 2005 was \$3,609.

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COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

RUSSELL COUNTY
LARRY BENNETT, SHERIFF
COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

For The Year Ended December 31, 2005

INTERNAL CONTROL - MATERIAL WEAKNESSES:

The Sheriff's Office Has A Lack Of Segregation Of Duties

The Sheriff's office has a lack of segregation of duties. Due to the entity's diversity of official operations, small size and budget restrictions, the official has limited options for establishing an adequate segregation of duties. We recommend that the following compensating controls be implemented to offset this internal control weakness:

- The Sheriff should periodically compare a daily bank deposit to the daily checkout sheet and then compare the daily checkout sheet to the receipts ledger. Any differences should be reconciled. The Sheriff could document this by initialing the daily checkout sheet, daily deposit, and receipts ledger.
- The Sheriff should compare invoices to payments. The Sheriff could document this by initialing the invoices.
- The Sheriff should compare the monthly bank reconciliation to the balance in the checkbook. Any differences should be reconciled. The Sheriff could document this by initialing the bank reconciliation and the balance in the checkbook.
- The Sheriff should require two signatures on all checks, with one being the Sheriff's.

Sheriff's Response: None

PRIOR YEAR:

The Sheriff Has A Lack of Adequate Segregation of Duties - Repeated

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Ronnie McFall, Russell County Judge/Executive
Honorable Larry Bennett, Russell County Sheriff
Members of the Russell County Fiscal Court

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the Russell County Sheriff for the year ended December 31, 2005 and have issued our report thereon dated May 25, 2006. The Sheriff's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Russell County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statement. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying comment and recommendation.

- The Sheriff's Office Has A Lack Of Segregation Of Duties

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statement being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we consider the reportable condition described above to be a material weakness.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Russell County Sheriff's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2005, are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Kentucky Governor's Office for Local Development and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Crit Luallen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed -
May 25, 2006

